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T H E

Honest Grief of a Tory,

Expressed in

A GENUINE LETTER

F R O M

A BURGESS of ———, in *Wiltshire*,

T O

The Author of the Monitor, *Feb. 17, 1759.*

*The hundredth Million is to be raised, and sent, Oh,
Shame! Oh, Grief! by Tory Hands, to Germany.*

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. ANGEL, near the *New Church in the
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THE
Honest Grief of a Tory,
EXPRESSED IN
A GENUINE LETTER, &c,

Feb. 23, 1759.
To the MONITOR,

S I R,

I Have always read your Papers with
Pleasure, and, I hope, not without
Improvement. I fancied, they expressed
my own Sentiments, tho' with greater
Force, and in better Language. I repeated
your Arguments to others, and triumphed

in finding them unanswerable. How then shall I be able to tell you, with what Affliction, not unmixt with Indignation, I am at present alarmed for your Reputation, and my own. But perhaps, in these unsteady Times, a Deviation from Principles, which we have long professed, cannot greatly injure our reputation. *Corrumpere, & corrumpi sæculum vocatur.* A single Instance of Defection, amidst a general falling off from Virtue, is only to be lamented, and hardly worth remarking. When whole regiments go over to the Enemy, 'tis to little purpose of Discipline to shoot a single Deserter. But yours, Sir, has been a very particular Situation. You have for some Years been looked upon as the Voice of those true English-

Englishmen, who zealously called for, and of late have triumphed in a Change, as they supposed, of Men and Measures. Our whole party, therefore, is interested in your continuing firm in the same honest Principles and Pursuits. I cannot be apprehensive for myself, tho' the whole Body of the Tories should sink for ever into the common Mass of ministerial Corruption. I would prevent, but cannot be affected by the Consequences. I am an old Man, and very probably you will perceive the Feebleness of Age in my Style, and Manner of Writing. I confess, I am no longer able to support the Fatigue of Reasoning, and the Heat of Disputation. Like good old Latimer, I can only repeat my political Creed, profess

ness my Faith, and practise what I believe. Then leave the disputable Parts to those of younger Vigour and Abilities.

Can you forgive me? This prattling of Self is the very Error of old Age. I will endeavour to restrain it, and shall now be particular to the Occasion of this Letter. The Simile, printed in your paper of last Saturday, had been sent us about a Week before, and read in the Club by our Chaplain. We heard it, not without Resentment at seeing ourselves and our Friends so ridiculously treated. However, to say Truth, the Raillery, we thought, was the meer Wantonness of a lively Imagination, not the Malevolence of Calumny or Inveective. In the present fa-
vourite

vourite Language of Metaphor ; the Arrow was indeed pointed, but not poisoned. Yet we were apprehensive, by the late Conduct of our Friends, that the Reproach was not wholly unmerited, and Similes not always unlike. Your angry Paper shewed us, we were not mistaken, and therefore we hoped to find our favourite Minister vindicated by you from the Charge of Hanoverian Measures, so often, so solemnly abjured. We hoped to see our Party preserved, at least, from Infamy and Contempt. For in the *candid* Opinion of the World, although the Seducer of Virtue may plume himself in the Arts of Seduction, and boast of his

Suc-

Success, yet the unhappy one, who falls a Victim to those Arts, is made the publick Object of Infamy and Contempt. How were we disappointed ! Neither the Charge against the Minister, or the Tories was denied. There had been a Kind of honourable Spirit even in denying. No ; your Correspondent pleaded guilty, both for the Minister and us. He seemed to think it a sufficient Justification, or perhaps it was the noblest Effort of his Abilities, to set his DOLL COMMON in virtuous and modest Opposition to the Simile's Corinna ; as if a Prize of Chastity were to be disputed for among the Ladies of Billingsgate, and given to the gentle Dame, whose Eloquence was loudest.

est. Your Correspondent indeed is angry, very angry with his Brother Bard, and deep are his Menaces of Vengeance.

But pray, Mr. Monitor, do not you Authors, Criticks, Poets and *Poet-tasters*, in the quaint Spelling of your Correspondent, treat one another a little cruelly? These last Gentlemen, for aught I know to the contrary, may have a Right to plead their old *Licentia poetica*. But why should an unfortunate Man of Rhime stand in the Pillory? *Tear him for his bad Verses*, cries the Mob of Rome in Julius Cæsar. Yet surely, Sir, it would be a little imprudent in the Writer of Doll Common, to advise the punishing bad Poets with Severity. But

B

suppose

suppose this Rhimer of Similes were fet in the Pillory. Would the Punishment of the Author make his Simile unlike? Could it vindicate the conduct either of the Minister, or the Tories? An Hibernian Friend of mine had been a little too familiar with the *polite Distemper* of North Britain. A Scotsman challenged him for the Affront. By my own Soul, says Teague, you are very foolish. Arrah! Do you think, that letting me Blood, will cure your Country of the Itch? — But really, Sir, after all this Anger, what is the Simile-Man's Crime? * *A Libel on the Minister, is a " Libel on our Country: It is equally criminal, as a Libel on the King; and*

" the

* Vid. *Monitor*.

“ *the Authors should share the same Fate.*”

Could Mr. Monitor give the Sanction of his Paper to such Sentiments as these? In the corrupted Days of Walpole these Sentiments were openly avowed, but I little expected to find them in a Writer, who professes his Zeal for Liberty and the Constitution. Take them in Swift's Ridicule.

That Ministers, by Kings appointed,
Are, under them, the Lord's anointed;
Ergo, it is the self-same Thing,
To oppose the Minister or King;
Ergo, by Consequence of Reason,
To censure *Statesmen* is *High-Treason*.

I am a Tory; have always lived, and hope to die a Tory. . But, Sir, I am no

Jacobite, nor will I ever wish to see the Majesty of the Crown of England brought down to a Level with the Reputation of my Fellow-Subject. “ *But he, who libels the Minister, libels his Country.*” Softly, good Sir. If Ministers are the Country, as Parsons call themselves the Church, what is to become of all other Subjects? Much in the same Strain, * “ *This tawney Boy, Scenegal, and these Indian Twins, Louisbourg and Du Quesne, are the Minister’s Children.*” What! Mr. Monitor; had Mr. Keppel and Boscawen; Mr. Amherst, and Wolfe, and Forbes, had they no Share in begetting these hopeful Babes? But indeed they are the Children
of

* Vid. Doll Common.

of the Nation, whose Rights of Parentage, I dare believe, these Gentlemen will chearfully acknowledge ; and should this, their newly supposed Father presume to dispose of them without the Nation's Consent——But I feel I am growing warm. Yet even Age may be forgiven, if it loses it's Temper, when provoked by such Absurdities. But I will recollect myself.

WHAT therefore, Sir, do you imagine was the Consequence of our reading the Simile a second Time? We saw, that Passion was but a miserable Argument in the Debates of Reason that the Charge against the Minister, of Hanoverian Measures, and against the Tories of
Com-

Compliance with those Measures, still remains unconfuted, indeed, unspoke to: that Mr. Monitor too, has forsaken his Principles, and is basely become the Defender of Germanized Measures and Ministers. Nay more, a nauseous Flatterer. In what other Light can we consider the following Passage? * “ *The Advantages*,” “ *which have been derived to this Country,*” “ *have reflected such a dazzling Splendor*,” “ *on the Character of him, to whom we*” “ *owe them, &c.*” Is not this tawdry Language beneath the Dignity of a British Monitor, and Freeholder? Your next Paper, I presume, will throw a Popish, Saint-like Glory round his Head, and bid us repeat in our Devotions, O P——t,

ORA

* Vid. Monitor.

ORA PRO NOBIS. For myself, I beg to be excused. I am a Protestant in Politics, as in Religion. Let who will, wander after strange Gods, and prostrate themselves before the Saints of human Invention. I am determined to repeat the Liturgy of my Ancestors, in which I cannot find any Worship prescribed to Ministers.

With regard to the present Minister, who does not rejoice with him in his Success, and give him his *proper* Share of Praise in taking Senegal, Louisbourg, Duquesne and Goree? But are you sure, Mr. Monitor, that Louisbourg (as in your Verses you say it will) is to remain to us? Has not Mr. P——t shamelessly declar'd,

clar'd, that he would sooner part with it, than forego one single Iota belonging to the Electorate of Hanover? Would HE were King of Hanover. I could be contented to part with him on such Terms, and trust to Providence for as good a *British* Minister. But Ministers, of all Parties, like Dryden's Priests of all Religions, are the same.

I remember Walpole : I hated him, but not personally. I learned from my early Youth, and still believe, that the greater Part of the immense Debt we labour under, was contracted by the Ministers of England to please a Stadtholder of Holland, and two Electors of Hanover.

These

THESE Ministers, and the Memory of such Ministers, dead before my Time, I ever detested, and still detest. Yet, do not mistake me. I have never, since I have been of Years to judge, once wished, as some giddy Men have done, to see this royal Family dethroned. I know we are indebted to Them for what is infinitely more dear to honest Men than Property, the Preservation of our Liberties and our Religion. But still I hate those Ministers, who flatter their Masters with a Sacrifice, less dear indeed than that of Liberty and Religion, but yet of very great Importance, I mean the Sacrifice of British Money to German Politicks.

IF you should say, that it is the Interest of England to pay for a War in Germany, then, They, whom I have hated, and whom I still hate, have been in the right, and we, who opposed them, in the wrong.

BUT I have always understood the Maxim of *employing the Force of France upon the Continent, as a Measure necessary for England's Interest*, to be a Whig, a Court Maxim, and such as must in Time prove fatal to this Country. I saw the Good Sense and Firmness of the Country Party oppose the pernicious Effects of
this

this Maxim, and check its Progress. But I have lived to see this Party give their Aid and Influence to support the Mischiefs it must necessarily produce. What then remains but Infamy and Despair?

THESE Reflexions, you will perhaps say, proceed from *unjust Prejudices*. You indeed seem already to have said so, when you urged against the Author of the Simile, that he wrongfully condemned People for being *cured of unjust Prejudices*. Speak out. Are my Prejudices against sending two or three Millions to Germany in any Year, or upon any Occasion,

sion, unjust? If they are, how long have they been so, and why do you blame those (I mean the Courtiers) who seem never to have entertained such *unjust* Prejudices, and praise those, who from the Revolution to the Year 1758 have ever kept them, and would to God they had kept them still: for though their Opposition could not prevent, it would at least, and ever did, put some Bounds to German Expence. There are none now, nor Hopes of any.

Yet Germany is not only to be the Gulph of our Treasures, but the Grave of our People. Twelve hundred of our gallant Countrymen dead, and eleven hundred at one Time sick in Ger-
man

man Hospitals ! Let Nature, as well as Politicks, deter us from this Land of Slaves. Its Climate is fatal to the Sons of Liberty. But further ; could a British Minister, truly jealous of the Glory of the Nation, suffer the Troops of Britain to be led on by a Foreigner, hired by our own Money to command us ? What can be said for the Whole of this strange Measure, well known, before it was carried into Execution, to be distasteful to the People, and well understood to be the last Excess of ministerial Compliance with the Sovereign ? Why were we made so angry (I was sincerely angry) with a very great Person two Years ago,

ago, when he wanted to take some English Troops with him to Germany? Was that too an *unjust Prejudice*?

BUT *our Ministers are virtuous, and ought to be supported by the virtuous; not ridiculed by the vicious. They have put an End to Corruption.* You mean Corruption of Members of Parliament by Money; for as to Corruption in the Country, I can look round me, and see it flourishing as much as ever, and more Bargains made, than perhaps ever were so long before the meeting of the new Parliament: You must mean Corruption by Money, not by Employments, for by

Em-

Employments, Contracts, Bonus's, Staff-Officers, Navy, Army, Victualling, &c. &c. there are more Members retained, than ever; and Mr. P——t's Friends and Relations having been provided for to the utmost of his Demands, these Emoluments do not only remain and multiply, but remain dispensed by the same Hand as heretofore, by the well tutored Scholar of Walpole and his own Brother, Pelham.

I have sometimes amused myself, when I have accidentally been in Town, with walking in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, and reading the Motto's on the Coaches at his

Gr—s

Gr—s Levee. I have seen your own dapper Motto there, *pro REGE & GREGE**. A Stranger, if he were thus employed, would imagine, that all the Virtues, Piety, Wisdom, Justice, Fortitude, Honour and Patriotism, were assembled in Council to promote the Welfare and Happiness of human Kind. I looked in, and saw those, to whom neither you nor I, two Years ago, would have allowed any one Virtue, private or public. We have now added our motley Crew of Tories; and this you piously call *a blessed Union*. But in simple, honest Truth, his G—— and his Corruption, are the main Supports of P—— and his Virtue.

But

* Vide Monitor.

But the Country-Party have none of these Emoluments, Bonus's, Employments, &c. Stay a little. Why has the Representative of our Borough forsaken all his old Principles? I will not, like Mr. Test, Mr. Contest, and, *proh, nefas!* like Mr. Monitor, call Rogue and Rascal, or pronounce him bribed. He may be only seduced. We reckon here, that

21 D. N——, Esq; as we say in the Country, is not *over-burthen'd*, and his Apostacy may proceed from a more innocent, and more common Cause, than is generally imagined; I mean his Want of Understanding. But there are, who

D

say

say he is bribed with the Expectation of a Place. Whichsoever is the Cause, he is equally unfit to be our Representative, and never shall be so again.

But what may possibly be true of one Man, cannot be so in this Case of Numbers; nor can I believe, that they have all changed from black to white in Simplicity of Heart, and through Weakness of Understanding. They are allured to German Measures, by Promises most liberally distributed, and by Expectations of Favours from those, who allure them. As for pecuniary Rewards, private and immediate, Unanimity will ever, in a
great

great Degree, prevent this Sort of Corruption. But are we, the Country-Party, the better, or the worse for this Unanimity? Suppose the Man, whom we this Time two Years so much feared to see set over us, the Patron of the Test, had succeeded. He would have bribed away, I doubt not. He would have sent Money by Wholesale to the Continent; but though I am truly sensible of his good Will that Way, I ask you, Mr. Monitor, whether he could have sent so much, as is now sent? No, Sir. Our honest Opposition, from which we have now scandalously departed, would have rendered it impossible, were his Abilities

ten times greater than they are. You know he could not have done it, and you yourself had begun a strong, noble, vigorous Opposition to prevent it. While the Test, as you say, was ridiculing Virtue, without Argument, as I remember (for I know I used to read with Indignation a Paper, in which somebody, I know not who, misused the brightest Talents, by applying them to Scurrility and Defamation) you were using Arguments, not indeed without some Scurrility too, which with me did you no Service. But you did use Arguments, and irrefragable ones. Yet, my God! against what! Why against those very same German

Mea-

Measures, which you said *that Man* would pursue, if he got uppermost, and which the present Minister, alas ! does pursue further, than *that Man* dared, or could have done. Permit me to quote a Passage in one of your Monitors, Number 68, which to me has the Spirit and Air of Prophecy. *Should there come a Time, when the prime Advocates of the People ; the Heads of the Opposition to those Measures, which brought Dishonour to the Crown, and Ruin to the Nation ; who declaimed against all Kind of Imposition, and contended for the Redress of our Grievances ; may be invited to the Helm of State ; let them not forget the Rock, upon*
which

which so many before them have split. If they also should VEER ABOUT, and WITHOUT BLUSHING become the Accomplices of the very Criminals they had avowed to bring to Justice; and only make Use of Popularity, to be wasted into a Situation, where they may with Impunity rivet that Yoke, which they stood engaged to remove and break in Pieces; let them remember, that the MONITOR will not fail to tell them, in plain English, of their Doings.

SUCH is Mr. Monitor's very spirited Language, when he sums up the *three hundred and thirty Millions, levied upon*
the

the People of this Land for the Aid of foreign Powers, in pursuance of that new System of Politicks, entailed upon us by too great an Affection for certain Possessions in Germany, and misapplying the Treasure, granted for the Defence of our own Dominions, in Measures calculated for the Security of a German Electorate.

The Time, of which this Paragraph seems strongly prophetick, is arrived. Will Mr. Monitor prove himself a Man of Honour? Will he nobly keep his Promise, and his Integrity? These *Advocates for the People; these Heads of Opposition, these Declaimers against Grievances;*

Grievances; will he tell them of their Doings? Or will he convince the World, that the Tories, the Minister, and his Writer, are equally sunk in one common Depravity?

I HAVE heard from Town, for no Man here presumes to defend these Measures, that one weak Pretext in Favour of them is, that although the last Ministry had imprudently engaged us in this continental War, yet we must now carry it on with Vigour. It is not true. We were engaged in no War on the Continent, nor had sent one Penny thither when Mr. P—— came in. He
sent

sent the first, the *trivial Sum*, as the Simile, too ludicrously, calls it. The War of 1757, thus lighted up, would have been absolutely put an End to by a Convention, however inglorious and disadvantageous to Hanover, yet salutary to Great Britain, had not we, the Country Party, conspired with the most Germanized Courtiers, to revive the War, break the Convention, and, contrary to all our Professions, enter into the most ruinous Expence, lending our Hands, after an Opposition of seventy Years, to compleat and finish the Ruin of this unhappy Country. The hundredth Million is to be raised and sent, Oh, Shame !

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Oh,

Oh, Grief! by Tory Hands to Germany!

To these Reflexions I desire a serious Answer. But think not to refute this reasonable Charge by the flimzey Verses of your Correspondent's Doll Common, or the indecent Language of Harlots. Were it possible, I could heartily wish you Success in vindicating the Conduct of those whom I once was proud to call my Friends. But it is my Comfort, my only Comfort, that no Reasons can be given for these German Measures in Excess, which will satisfy the still steady Constituents of our Renegado Representatives.

tentative ; and our Clamours will secure a Remnant, a small one may be, who will so far succeed, as to lessen these continental Expences, and delay our Ruin, if not yet carried too far, even for Delay to interpose.

I am,

S I R, &c.

E 2 P O S T.

1840

Received of the Treasurer of the
County of [illegible] the sum of
[illegible] Dollars for the purchase of
[illegible] land [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
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Witness my hand and seal this [illegible] day of [illegible] 1840

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POSTSCRIPT.

I Just now hear, that an Excise on
Tobacco is to be our Tax this Year.

If so, the very worst Attempt, of the
very worst Minister, is to be carried into

Execution

Execution by the best. Or was that too,
 an *unjust Prejudice*, of which Mr. P——
 has cured us? But if this Product of
 North America must indeed be taxed in
 this odious Manner, merely to save the
 Produce of the Estates of a few West-
 India Members, what becomes of your
 only Plea? What means this bold, per-
 nicious Measure, either with Regard to
 the Minister, or his West Indians, but
 gross and palpable Corruption? Corrup-
 tion

tion detestable, not as you would have us
believe, detested.

F I N I S,

12/1/11 11/1/11
Rf
H.E.

11/1/11

